

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION MEETING

A regular meeting of the Public Art Commission took place on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, at 5:30 P.M. at the Cambridge Arts Council.

The following members were present:

Miriam Stewart, Julie Graham, T.K. McClintock, Mags Harries, Cynthia Smith

Staff present:

Jeremy Gaucher, Lillian Hsu, Rika McNally

1) Rika Presentation on Current Conservation and Maintenance

First Street Murals: CAC has installed artist Nancy Simons' 18 painted Sintra panels at the First Street Garage, covering the existing plywood. It is a very successful project that has beautified 5,000 square feet of boarded windows.

Town Green, Glier Murals: the ball-point pen vandalism has been fixed by Rika and her team. The over cost of repair was \$7,800.

Lisa Houck Mural in Inman: painted in 1982, the mural is faded and the artist has asked the CAC to remove it. The mural is on private property, although, as with some older murals around the city, has an acquisition number in the CAC database. Rika reports that it could be removed without a great deal of trouble with assistance from DPW or other contractor. Rika reported Houck would be willing to paint the sign for \$10,000 (Important note: this was later changed to \$40,000). Rika looked into a sign painted and the quote was roughly \$10,000 plus a \$2,000 artist fee for Houck. PAC discussed ideas about how the CAC/PAC could raise the \$10,000 including ideas about asking the building owners, Inman Square Business Association, or other local companies. Staff will meet with Houck at the site to discuss further.

Lisa Carter Mural on Broadway (side of Bondir restaurant): Rika reported that the mural has been partially obscured by a new building (back 2/3) and the rest painted over (front 1/3) by the restaurant. This is also a case where the mural existed on private property, but has an acquisition number. Staff will prepare a requested for PAC to formerly de-accession the artwork.

2) \$100,000 CAP/ 1 Percent Program

Mags would still like PAC to address this issue again and craft another letter to the City Manager. Staff is working to provide a list of projects/budgets that have not been fully funded up to the 1%. PAC also would like the letter to address the expedience with which CAC staff is brought into Capital Improvement projects, as it greatly impacts the efficiency and results of the public art integration. Lillian will send the previous letter sent to the City Manager and forward to Mags and T.K.

3) Project Updates

5 Western Ave: the Art Jury to select finalists for the Percent project will convene tomorrow. Jurors are Alex Van Praagh, Matthew Mazzotta, and Clara Wainwright.

Western Avenue, Matthew Mazzotta: Matthew has been developing his table and chair design with oversight of the landscape architect Cynthia Smith. 95% Drawings were submitted Friday.

SPUN: Bicycle Rack Design Competition exhibition will be at the CAC Gallery Jan 17-March 9.

Lillian will be applying to the NEA Our Town grant due March 1 for Destination Riverbank.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 18, 5:30

5) Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.